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Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas
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Reports on achievements in surveying, mapping and charting in addressing national, subregional, regional and global issues, including applications

Geographical information activities of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics

Paper submitted by Brazil**

Summary

The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) is a federal government body linked to the Ministry of Planning, the Budget and Management, whose mission is to elaborate a portrait of Brazil with the information necessary for understanding its features and exercising citizenship.

The Institute, through the Department of Cartography (DECAR) of the Geosciences Division, is part of the National Mapping System, which is responsible for geographical coverage of Brazil at scales of 1:1,000,000 and less. Coverage at the scale of 1:1,000,000 is generated from topographical maps and is used as an input for the production of maps in the Brazil Series (scales of 1:2,500,000, 1:5,000,000 and others), regional maps and atlases. DECAR also participates in systematic topographical coverage at scales of 1:250,000, 1:100,000, 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 through outputs produced jointly with the Ministry of the Army under internal and external projects such as the census, analysis of environmental indicators and other structural and ad hoc projects.

DECAR is following technological developments in the area of digital mapping and is adapting methodologies through the modernization of its production processes, including photogrammetry; remote sensing; monitoring, support and updating through the global positioning system (GPS); structuring of geographical information; and map publishing.

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This paper is intended to show how cartography is supporting the enormous operation of collecting and disseminating the population census for 2000 and other projects being carried out by DECAR.